

AD/ORE Files

Assistant Director, Special Operations

28 August 1950

Assistant Director, Reports and Estimates

Intelligence Reporting on Korea

25X1A 1. This office has been charged with the responsibility of supplying to the White House every twenty-four hours a brief account of the military situation along the fighting lines in Korea and a report on the most significant political developments and changes taking place as the result of hostilities. During the first weeks of the fighting, [REDACTED] on military developments were excellent and were promptly received by teletype. This information contributed appreciably to our daily report.

2. In the field of significant political developments, our daily report to the President has been lacking to an embarrassing degree. Because of this insufficiency, we have had to call this to the attention of the Director in our quarterly analysis of field collection. In an effort to rectify this lack by further providing for SO substantive guidance and direction to collection, I requested my responsible officers concerned to survey briefly SO reports since 25 June for the purpose of determining gaps in information.

25X1A 3. Aside from the military and tactical reports produced by [REDACTED] ORE has received no significant information on political conditions and developments in North Korea since 25 June. The fourteen reports in Attachment "A" were selected for comment because they do contain some information on North Korea but in the main they consist mostly of overt generalities and rumors obtained from refugees, PCN's and stragglers. No reports have dealt with such significant developments as internal security of North Korea, government reaction to the prolonged fighting, secret political maneuvering of the Red Korean government with other Soviet satellite countries, conferences with Soviet officials in Pyongyang on future courses of action, and economic and political effects of UN bombing. A brief list of intelligence requirements currently desired from North Korea is herein attached and is believed to fall within the scope of SO's mission.

25X1A 4. Recently [REDACTED] from UN-occupied areas of Korea show a very desirable trend away from the early post-hostilities concentration on tactical information. There has been an increase in quantity and quality of reporting on South Korea due, in part, apparently to less dependence on refugees.

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